

Chief, Economic Research, ORR

12 June 1958

Chief, Materials Division, ORR

OSI Research Program for FY 1959

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE BRANCH

1. Project #6-1, "Soviet Bloc Research and Development on the Technological Factors Affecting Food Potential", is of interest to M/AG. This project is a continuing one; previous reports of this type have been prepared by OSI. This type of report is useful to M/AG in an evaluation of long-term food availabilities in the Soviet Bloc. No coordination in drawing up terms of reference for Project #6-1 appears to be necessary unless in this study it is proposed to make projections of the effects of technological advances on production. In this case coordination would be desirable, particularly in choosing the base production data used as the point of departure in making the projections.

2. Project #4-38, "Soviet Research on Foot-and-Mouth Disease", is of interest to M/AG as an indication of the effects this disease might have on the planned expansion of the livestock sector. No coordination in the terms of reference is necessary.

CHEMICALS BRANCH

1. M/CH has some interest in the following FND projects for FY 1959. All except two of these projects (6-212 and 6-217) are to be done by an external contractor. We would appreciate the opportunity to review and comment on the terms of reference for the external projects before they are submitted to the contractor.

Project #6-35 -- "Significance of Soviet Basic Research in Acetylene Chemistry" -- M/CH is interested in the synthesis aspects of acetylene chemistry and in future trends in methods for production of organic chemicals. Possible use of acetylene chemicals as GM fuels is also of interest.

Project #6-204 -- "Soviet Research in Selected Mass Transfer Operations" -- M/CH is interested in solvent extraction of uranium salts. This project could assist in clarifying questions concerning Soviet technology and in identifying particular solvents that might be used.

Project #6-206 -- "Soviet Research in Chemical Kinetics" -- M/CH is interested in the GM fuel aspects of this study.

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2. M/CH also has a general interest in the subject matter of the following projects:

Project # 6-211 -- Soviet Research in High Temperature Polymers
6-212 -- Soviet Research in Hydrogen
6-213 -- Soviet Research in Ion-Exchange Resin Chemistry
6-214 -- Soviet Research in Isotope Separations
6-217 -- Soviet Research in Rare Earths -- Separation and Utilization -- M/CH has an interest in the possible application of certain rare earth compounds in nuclear technology.

FERROUS METALS BRANCH

1. M/FM has a basic interest in the technological aspects of the external research projects listed below, most of which may be expected to develop information relevant to M/FM Project No. 23.2332, "The Supply of Selected Alloy Steels and Special Alloys in the USSR". Since it is not known how much publication will be made of the material produced under these external projects, M/FM should receive copies of all reports as submitted. M/FM should also like to be consulted regarding the terms of reference of projects not already launched.

Project # 6-20 -- Soviet Research in Vacuum Metallurgy Techniques
6-37 -- Soviet Research on High Temperature Resistant Metals and Alloys
6-207 -- Soviet Research on Corrosion of Special Alloys
6-215 -- Soviet Metallurgical Research on Low Temperature Effects

FUELS AND POWER BRANCH

1. Project 1-49, "USSR Nuclear Power Program", has only 120 hours assigned to it. This appears inadequate for any real research. We had planned to use 400 hours primarily for identification of high cost fuel areas where nuclear power could logically compete.

2. Project #1-96, "Duratom AE Program", is given only 140 hours of research time. It appears that this project will have to derive its material from our present external contract, or wind up as a very superficial treatment.

3. MED is scheduled to contribute a piece for Chapter 62 of the NIS on 13 countries, in four of which we are concerned: USSR,

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East Germany, Hungary and Rumania. The total allocation of 210 hours for this purpose seems inadequate.

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